

Intimations.

DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK &
COMPANY, LIMITED.
VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

McKAY BLEND OLD SCOTS
WHISKY.
A thoroughly well matured Whisky of first-class
quality.
Per Case\$14.00

PHOTOGRAPHIC GOODS.
JUST TO HAND EX "JAVA."
ILFORD PLATES,
ORDINARY, RAPID
AND EXTRA RAPID.
EASTMAN'S BROMIDE PAPER.
SOLIO PAPER.
PHOTOGRAPHIC CHEMICALS
OF ALL KINDS.

DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK & Co., LD.,
VICTORIA DISPENSARY.
Hongkong, 9th January, 1895.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

All these are selected by our London
House, bought direct at first hand,
imported in Wood and Bottled by ourselves,
thus saving all intermediate profits and enabling
us to supply the best growths at moderate
prices.

PRICE LISTS, WITH FULL DETAILS, TO BE HAD
ON APPLICATION.

PORT:—After removal should be rested a
month before use. When required for
drinking at once it should be ordered to be
decanted at the Dispensary before being
Wines, of very superior vintage. All are
true Xtra Wines.

CLARET:—Our Claret, including the lowest
prices, are guaranteed to be the genuine
product of the juice of the grape and are not
artificially made from raisins and currents,
as is generally the case with Cheap Wines.

BRANDY:—All our Brandy is guaranteed to
be pure Cognac, the difference in price
being merely a question of age and vintage.

WHISKY:—All our Whisky is of excellent
quality and of greater age than most brands
in the market. The Scotch Whisky marked
"E" is universally popular and is pro-
nounced by the best local connoisseurs to
be superior to any other brand in the
Hongkong Market.

We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to
be genuine when bought direct from us in the
Colony or from our authorized Agents at the
Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.
Hongkong, 9th January, 1895.

BIRTH.

On the 12th instant, at 8, Stewart Terrace,
Peak, the wife of H. B. LETHBRIDGE, of a
daughter.

DEATHS.

At Shanghai, on the 5th January, GORDON,
aged 5 years and seven months, dearly beloved
son of Andrew and Kate McKelvie.
At his residence on the 5th January, HENRY
B. ENDICOTT, aged 51 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph
HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1895.

TELEGRAMS.

THE CHINA-JAPAN WAR.

LONDON, January 12th.
A Japanese force captured Halphing on the
9th instant, after four hours' fighting; the Chi-
nese retreated to Haisaksha after losing two
hundred killed. The Japanese are in pursuit.

BRITAIN AND FRANCE IN AFRICA.

The parleyings between Great Britain and
France on the African questions will conclude
next week. Great advantages to British trade
have already been obtained.

THE FRENCH IN MADAGASCAR.

The French have bombarded a Hova fort near
Tamatave and the defenders retired with heavy

loss. A French cruiser has started for Majunga
with the intention of occupying that town.

(Special to Shanghai Mercury.)
A FRESH MOVE.

YOKOHAMA, January 5th.
Lieutenant-General Nodzu telegraphs from
Tchoorgiou on the night of the 3rd instant that
scouts sent out in the direction of Keeping report
having discovered between Twentien and Keeping
a Chinese force four thousand strong, under
General Chang, other scouts from the direction
of Kaowang report the existence, between
Hochfang and Shichatou, of a Chinese force,
strength unknown, under General Nieh, who is
retreating in the use of the rifle and enrolling
and rejecting according to the result. General Sung
is reported by the natives to be advancing
towards Hsicheng, which gives rise to uneasiness
among the inhabitants of Kaowang, New-
chwang and vicinity.

THREE GENERALS TO BE
PUNISHED.

PEKING, January 4th.
A new Edict has been issued, ordering Viceroy
Li Hung-chang to find, arrest and deliver to the
Board of Punishments three Generals—namely,
Generals Huang Chao and Wei Ju-cheng.
[The name of the third General is not given.
—Ed. S. M.]

MR. FOSTER'S AID APPRECIATED.
The Emperor and High Officials are very
much gratified that the Mr. J. W. Foster,
formerly American Secretary of State, has
accepted the invitation to aid China in the settle-
ment of peace between China and Japan, and
regard it as the very best arrangement that
could be made.

MR. M. N. PETHICK.
Mr. W. N. Pethick, former U.S. Vice-Consul
at Tientsin, who lately arrived here, has been
introduced by the United States Minister to the
Chinese Minister (Envoy), with whom he has
had several interviews.

THE PEACE MISSION.

January 7th.
His Excellency Chang Ying-huan, the Envoy
appointed to Japan, left the capital to-day.
An Imperial Edict has been issued proclaim-
ing that a Commission has been appointed and
has left, but without stating for what purpose or
for what destination.

(Special to Sham Observer.)
THE RECALL OF M. DE LASSANUS.
PARIS, December 31st.
The confidential State documents which were
communicated by M. de Lassanus were found
among the Carvelet's papers. M. de Lassanus
also sent copies of official documents regarding
railways and other public works in Tonkin to
M. Freychinet and other Deputies.

THE NEW YEAR HONOURS.

Calcutta, January 1st.
The New Year honours Gazette has been
issued to-day. The following are the Kalyani
Commanders of the Star of India—Messrs.
James Westland, Frederick Fryer, Courtenay,
and Albert. To be Companions of the Star
of India—Charles Cecil Stevens, Alexander
Badoock, Donald Smeaton, Stephen Jacob, and
Colonel William Pringle. A Knight Coman-
dery of the Indian Empire has been con-
ferred on Colonel Henry Threlkeld. To be Com-
panions of the Indian Empire, Thomas David
Little, of Bombay, Colonel Henry Bristow,

SYDNEY, December 17th.
In the match English Eleven v. Combined
Australia, played at Sydney, the latter started
badly, losing three wickets for 13 runs. Then
Giffen went in and scored 161 before he was
disposed of. Ireland followed with 51; and
Gregory has made 85 not out; or a total of 346
for the loss of five wickets. Great interest is
taken in the match, over 11,000 spectators paying
for admission during the afternoon.

December 19th.
The first innings of the Australians was con-
cluded in a total of 386 runs. Gregory, of
Sydney, contributing 231, by brilliant batting.
The Englishmen in their first innings scored
225 and, having to follow on, the second
innings badly by losing four good wickets—
Ward, Brown, Stoddart, and McLaren for 265
runs.

A collision occurred in Sydney harbour yester-
day evening. The tug *Avonia*, going at full
speed, ran into the steamer *Princess*, striking
her amidships. The captain and fourteen women
and children were cast into the water from the
steamer by the impact, but they were all saved,
excepting two children. Some of the passengers
sustained injuries. The rescue was effected in a
very smart manner.

December 20th.
The Englishmen scored four hundred and
thirty-seven in their second innings—or a grand
total of seven hundred and sixty-two for the two
innings.

The Australians have scored 113 in their
second innings for the loss of two wickets, leaving
them with only sixty-three runs to get to win.
Giffen and D. are now batting.

An extraordinary shooting case is reported
from Lismore. Bolowski, the manager of a
sugar mill, visited a cane field with another
manager named Wilke at 3 o'clock yesterday
morning. They were overheard quarrelling, and
shortly afterwards Bolowski returned to the
house, and arming himself with a revolver and
taking with him his son, aged twelve, retraced
his steps to where he had been Wilke. On meeting
the latter he immediately fired and shot him in
the face. He then returned home, and when
arrested by the police a few hours later was
found asleep. Wilke was removed to the hospi-
tal, and remains in an unconscious condition.
Motive for the crime a mystery.

MELBOURNE, December 20th.
Some startling revelations are being made in
the Melbourne Insolvent Court concerning Sir
J. Munro's transactions with the Federal Bank.

LONDON, December 17th.
The Rothschilds have raised a loan of fifteen
millions sterling for Russia, the latter pledging
herself that a persecution of the Jews within
the Russian dominions shall cease.

Over ten thousand Armenian Christians are
reported to have been massacred by the Turks.
The details to hand concerning these ghastly
atrocities—the victims being chiefly women
and children—have created a great sensation
throughout Europe, and it is stated that England
and Russia have been given a free hand by the
other Great Powers in calling Turkey to account.

The body of the late Canadian Premier (Sir
J. S. D. Thompson) has been embalmed and
conveyance to Halifax, Nova Scotia, where it will
be accorded a State funeral. The body will be
conveyed to Canada in a British war ship.

December 10th.
The latest development in Madagascar is
that the French commenced shelling the place
whereupon the natives fled from the coast.

They subsequently agreed to submit to the
terms imposed by the French.
The British steamer *Latona*, 3,500 tons, has
been ordered to proceed immediately to join the
China squadron.

December 20th.
The death is announced of Sir Oswald Stanley,
the Queen's marine painter.
A report is to hand that the Japanese force
marching to the attack of Moukden has been
repulsed by the Chinese.

WASHINGTON, December 18th.
The House of Representatives has commenced
a debate on the Bill presented by Mr. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury, for reforming the
currency and banking laws.

LONDON, December 19th.
At a meeting of the Manufacturers and Operative
Society, at Manchester, a resolution was
passed, which was afterwards wired to Mr.
Fowler, Secretary of State for India, protesting
strongly against the imposition of the cotton
duties in India, for which the countervailing
excise duty was no equivalent.

December 21st.
Major Owen and Captain Macdonald have
been awarded to wear the decoration of the
Star of Zambur for services in Uganda; also
Lieutenant Arthur for services in the command-
ing Zambur troops on active service.

Admiral Bedford has been appointed Comman-
der of the Bath. Captain Campbell, of the cruiser
Philomel, and Captain Powell, of the cruiser
Phaia, have been appointed Companions of the
Bath, with other naval rewards for services con-
nected with operations against the Chief Nana
on the West Coast of Africa.

ROME, December 22nd.
The general excitement throughout Italy,
caused by the recent revelations in the financial
scandals, is quieting down, and public opinion is
veering in favour of Signor Crispi, who continues
to enjoy the confidence of King Humbert.

PARIS, December 22nd.
Although absolute secrecy is maintained
regarding the proceedings in the espionage
trials, it is generally reported here that the in-
dictment against Captain Dreyfus is based upon a
document stolen from the German Embassy at
Paris.

A terrific storm swept over Great Britain on
Friday night, causing immense havoc through-
out the country. Forty persons have been
killed, and hundreds injured in the provinces by
the falling of buildings and chimneys. In several
places communication has been entirely
suspended, owing to the damage done to the
railways and telegraphs. Many wrecks and
immense casualties have occurred along the
coasts. One of the express trains running to
Manchester collided with a goods train at Chel-
ford, in Cheshire. Sixteen persons were killed
and many injured.

December 23rd.
Captain Dreyfus has appealed against the
sentence passed on him.

LONDON, December 24th.
Replying to an address presented by the
French Colony in London, in which the desire
was strongly expressed to be friendly
relations between England and France, Baron
de Courcel, the new French Ambassador to
Great Britain, said he shared the views expressed
in the address and declared his mission to be
one of conciliation and peace.

PARIS, December 24th.
Lord Randolph Churchill has arrived here.
His London health causes much anxiety.
Symptoms of locomotor ataxia have appeared.
General Murray, Minister of War, has intro-
duced a bill into the Chamber of Deputies prohi-
biting any person from being appointed to a
post in the army or navy who has been found
guilty of a crime. Captain Dreyfus ought to
have been shot under the present law, but was
spared on account of his being an officer. These
remarks led to a violent attack on the Chamber,
one result of which has been the arrangement
of a duel between Mr. Jaurès and M. Berteux,
Minister of Works, to take place to-morrow
morning.

LONDON, December 24th.
Lord Randolph Churchill arrived here to-day.
He is now unable to walk.

An interview with a representative of
Reuters' agency, Captain Youngblood said
that the British had on Chitral Hunza largely
lessened the danger on the Northern Frontier,
and he urged the construction of a direct railway
between Peshawar and Chitral, which would
complete the security of this portion of the
frontier. Captain Youngblood also expressed
the opinion that Russia, China and Great Britain
were virtually in accord with each other on
frontier questions.

Mr. Fowler, Secretary of State for India, has
sent the Viceroy a dispatch, which, it is believed,
will lead to some of the reasonable grievances
of the Indian pilgrims to Mecca being remedied.

December 25th.
Lord Randolph Churchill is suffering from
general paralysis, and not locomotor ataxia.
The patient is only semi-conscious and in a
highly critical condition.

(PARIS, December 25th.)
The death of Lord Randolph Churchill has been
announced by Reuters' agency. He died at 10
Barbican place this morning without relief.

CARLO, December 26th.
Nubar Pasha has had a severe fall and broken
his ankle joint.

LONDON, December 26th.
The greatest distress and inconvenience con-
tinues to exist in Newfoundland owing to the
monetary deadlock caused by the failure of the
banks. The dearth of currency is so acute that
Government is unable to pay salaries to the
officers in specie, in place of which the exchequer
of London order for goods has been accepted.
The incorporation of Newfoundland with the
Dominion of Canada and its reunion to the status
of a Colony is a subject that is being discussed.

December 27th.
The steamer *Hippodamia*, the pioneer of the direct trade between Manchester
and Bombay, will commence her regular
service on January 31st.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

HICKS' ORIOLES at the Theatre Royal to-night.

The British steamer *Latona* has been
Port Said, on route to the East Indies.

The performance of *Robinson Crusoe*
will take place on the 30th inst.

A REGULAR MORNING SERVICE, at 10 o'clock,
S.C., will be held in the Protestant Hall, 22, Col-
ledge Street, on the 13th inst. for the purpose of
raising funds for the relief of the Chinese.

The following naval appointments have been
announced:—*Commodore* Sir J. P. Thompson, *Com-
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and *Commodore* Sir J. P. Thompson.

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The performance at the "Bijou" commences at
9 p.m.

The Municipal Council of Saigon has decided
upon building a new theatre in Saigon at an
outlay of seven hundred thousand francs.

The troopship *Warren Hastings* arrived at
Singapore from Hongkong en route for Calcutta,
with the *Chrysophorus Boys* on board, early on
the 10th ult., and left for her destination at
3 p.m. the same day.

New version of "Annie Laurie."
"Her brow was like the snowdrift,
Her throat was like the swan,
And her hair it was the largest
Held ever looked upon."

At a meeting of the "Old Voluntes" next Friday
evening, his Excellency the Governor presiding,
Mr. E. J. Achard, Acting Chief Justice, will read
a paper on "Should imprisonment be inflicted
in default of payment of fines?"

STAFF-ENGINEER Joseph P. Thomas, who for
two years carried out the duties of first assistant
to the chief engineer at Devonport Dockyard, is
to relieve Mr. F. E. Shean, Inspector of
Machinery, as chief engineer of the Hongkong
Naval Dockyard.

In the shop of a St. Petersburg watchmaker
remarks a London weekly, a human faced clock
is on view—the only one of its kind. The hands
are pivoted on its nose, and any messages that
may be spoken into its ear are repeated by a
phonograph through its mouth.

MECCA was visited last year by between 250,000
and 300,000 pilgrims, much a large number
than usual, as the principal day of the pilgrimage
happened to fall on a Friday. Ninety thousand
came by sea of whom nearly 10,000 died of
cholera, while of those who went by land, most
of them from British India, 15,000 perished.
The mortality was to the extent of all the pilgrims.

WE WANT THE EARTH.

They used to sing some time ago
"A rather plaintive song,
"Man wants but little here below,
"Nor wants that little long."
But nowadays the song is not
"With music to the rhyme—
"Man wants as much as he can get
And wants it all the time."

We read in the *London and China Express* of
the 7th ultimo that the Lord's Day Observance
Society recently memorialized the Colonial
Society in regard to Sun'ay work at Hong-
kong, connected with the mail steamers.
Lord Ripon, connected with the Society, has
only will no further exemptions be granted, but
that the privileges now extended to the mail
steamers will cease on the termination of their
present time contracts.

SOME RICHY APOLOGISMS.

That man is rich who hath no debts.
Only the fool brags of his bank account.
Never trust the man whom you have wronged.
Put the brakes on the investment that hurries
you.

Be the last to cross the river of doubtful
investment.

As a pillow, a clear conscience will beat goose
feathers.

None but a patient man should give his all
before he dies.

He who accumulates doth well, but he who
preserves doth better.

A man not handsome at twenty, strong at
thirty, and a good deal of the knock of
fortune at least once. Most failures were those
too lazy to get up and let her in.

THE SECOND-CLASS PASSENGER.

(Written specially for the Hongkong Telegraph.)
The steamer *Rohilla* was just about starting
for the North. Her "Blue Peter" fluttered in the
breeze, and the first bell, warning of every-
body but passengers, had already been rung. Still
a goodly crowd of people thronged the deck, for
the Hongkong cricket team were on board,
bound for Shanghai, to play the annual interpro-
vincial match, and a good many friends and votaries of
the national game had come to see them off and
wish them "good-bye."

"Well, good-bye, old chap, good luck to you!"
said a genial-faced man in clerical voice, as he
shook hands with a good-looking youngster who
was leaning back against the rail. "You'll
be back, I suppose, in three or four weeks?"
"Mind you give those Shanghai fellows a
thorough good licking."

"Well, here's a shot for it anyhow," replied
the other with a laugh. "Come below and have
a drink, won't you? There's lots of time. What
do you say? Have to get ashore? Yes, I know!
But another cork'll prevent you getting
back to Pedder's Wharf. Come along, and then
he linked his arm in that of the older man, and
they were just about disappearing down the
companion-way when a man rushed up to them
in a state of great excitement.

"I say," he said, "have you seen Cunningham
anywhere? I don't believe he's on board."
"By Jove! I don't think he is! At least I've
not seen him."

"Well, some one will have to go ashore and
hunt him up. Confound the fellow! he's always
drinking. Great Scott! the idea of leaving our
cruiser behind!"

"What?" asked another member of the
eleven, coming up at the moment.
"Matter enough," growled the perturbed
Captain, with an anxious face. "Cunningham
isn't on board."

"The devil!" ejaculated the new comer.
"I say you fellows, look! there's a steam-
launch making for the ship," cried Adair, who
had been scanning the harbour. "Perhaps he's
here!"

The men crowded to the ship's side, and
watched the launch eagerly as she cut her way
rapidly through the blue water. It was one of
those delicious days of tropical autumn, when
the fierce summer heat is a thing of the past, and
the first tracing touch of cooler weather makes
one feel that life is again worth living. Bright
sunshine everywhere, and in the air a soft,
brimny invigorating breath that makes the old
folks feel only middle-aged, and the middle-aged
positively juvenile.

As the launch slackened speed and stopped
alongside the gangway, the men watching her
gave a sigh of relief which broke into a subdued
cheer as a broad-shouldered man leisurely made
his way up the ladder, quite oblivious that he was
the cause of all the excitement. As he stepped
on deck, Adair and his friend moved off and
made a second attempt to go below and get their
drinks.

"Queer fellow, isn't he?" said the older man
with a backward jerk of his head in the direction
of the latest arrival.
"Is he?" Well, I don't know much about
him, you see, as I've only been out here a month,
but he certainly strikes me as being a bit
reserved and even a trifle awkward."

"Ferguson said just now, nothing seems to white
him up but cricket. Wine and women have no
effect upon him whatever."

"Ah! thereby hangs the tale! women, or
rather a woman had a great effect upon him once
upon a time; in fact, which has not worn off
yet."

"No! He's the last man I should imagine to
have been mixed up with petticoats. Who was
she?"

"Well, unfortunately, she was somebody
else's property."
"Poor chap! And what happened?"
"Well, I don't really know all the ins and outs
of the story. It happened while he was at
Oxford, and I know that he acted very strange
in the whole affair. Threw up the line of life he
had mapped out for himself and fled from the
scene of his temptation to fresh fields and pastures
new, which landed him in this Colony about
four or five years ago. He's a very good chap
when you know him, but you've got to know him
—by Jove, Adair! if that's not the last bell
yarning here, I clean forget that time and tide
wait for no man! With a hardy hand-shake,
he made his exit rather precipitately up the
companion-way."

Three weeks later and the cricket match was
a thing of the past. Each side claimed the laurels
equally as the contest had resulted in a "draw," and
now the Hongkong team are on their way home,
having embarked that morning in the ill-fated
Bohara from Shanghai. They are all feeling
more or less a bit "off colour," after the festivities
of the cricket week, and are leaning about the
deck, and lying lazily in long deck-chairs,
glancing idly at the dancing waters, from between
the smoke wreaths curling upward from their
cigars and pipes. With one accord they were
"lying off" with the exception of young Adair,
who with boyish curiosity had been making a
tour of inspection, from which he had just
returned radiant and excited.

"I say, you fellows," he said, seating himself
astride a convenient camp-stool, "there's a
second-class passenger!"
"You don't say so!" murmured somebody
sleepily. "What an extraordinary thing! I
should imagine as a rule that there generally
are second-class passengers."

Of course there are, but, by Jove! I not like
this one."

"Male or female?" not quite so sleepily.
"A woman."

"Pretty? Young?"
"Pretty doesn't describe her! She's glorious.
As far as her age goes I should say she certainly
isn't in her teens."

"What's she like, Adair?" quite wide awake
now.
"Well, it's hard to describe her. There's some-
thing quite indescribable about her. She's tall
and willowy and pale, with great dark eyes
Jupiter! such eyes! and oh! such rippling hair;
a great lump of it, you know, done round and
round her head behind, with little soft curls
peeping out all over the place; hair that looked
dark in the shadow, and like polished copper
when the sun struck it. Then her voice—"

"Oh, ho! So you spoke to this divinity!
Bravo, Adair!"
"The boy got rather red and knocked some ash
off his cigarettes."

"Well, I swore to myself I'd speak to her, you
know, but she didn't look the sort you could go
up to and remark that it was a fine day! I
was leaning about on the lower bridge and she
was on the deck below; presently she seemed to
be looking about for something to sit down
on, and then an inspiration seized me. I snatched
up a cane chair, and was beside her in a minute,
offering it to her with my best bow."

"And then you found she was a creature of
adamant who refused your offer with scorn!"
"No, she didn't! She just took stock of me
for a second with her great eyes, which seemed
to burn through me, and then she smiled and
shining hair!"

"I tried to, but it was no go. She froze up at
once, whereupon I made my exit, feeling rather
squashed."

"Poor Colin! that was hard luck, and you
such a fervent worshipper of Beauty's shrine.
Come along and let's see if she's still on view."
And together they moved off.

Cunningham moved restlessly in his chair as
he looked after the retreating figures. He had
overheard their conversation as he had lain with
his half-closed eyes in his deck chair, and somehow
he had recalled to him old memories—memories
of his mind, to his three distant and forgotten
since their recollection only served to make his
life more discontented, restless, dissatisfied with
his life. But now, that owing to this chance
conversation they had been unearthed, his brain
revived with them, and with his eyes closed he
passed in mental review the last year of his
life, as the shadows lengthened, and the sun
vague, misty, dim, but still her face just such
as one as Colin Adair had been raving about.
A splendid face with its great dancing eyes
and the coils of glorious hair setting off the
shapely little head.

"Bad!" he said with an impatient move-
ment. "Five long years ago, and the old lady
just as rampant as ever, and the old lady
longing. Ah! Emma! Emma! the old lady
has much to answer for. The one woman in
the world who could have made my life, and
who, who, innocently enough God knows,
married it."

And then he fell to bitter musings, till the
shadows deepened into night, and the dinner
gong with its resonant clang awoke him from
his reverie. Later on that evening
he was pacing the deck, and a stiff breeze had
sprung up. The other passengers were finding
the conviviality of the smoking room more to
their taste, but a strange unrest had fallen upon
Marcus Cunningham, and he felt that a solitary
cigar was more suited to his mood than the
haunted by "Dim and vague, it smiled at him
now, as he leaned over the rail, from the dark
deep water."

"I wonder if she is anywhere to be seen," he
mused. "He did not mean his old love, but the
woman whom Colin Adair had been talking
about. 'Some fifth-rate set-up, probably, going
to join her troops! Best see her if I can, and
be disillusioned, and then perhaps, perhaps, I
—he sighed a little wearily—"and who does
and dozens of women there are who are tall and
p

"No, on the contrary, she was a good kind little soul, but with a bitter little laugh—"You are quite right, I found it impossible to remain. Her husband made my life a burden to me. The man persecuted me with his unrelenting attentions, until I could bear it no longer, and was obliged to leave, though heaven alone knew what was to become of me. The only thing that suggested itself to me, was to go to Hongkong, and see if I could find another engagement there. And oh, Marcus, I was feeling so lonely, so sad, so wretched at night, just before you came, I had been looking at the water, and wondering if I would be best to end—"

"He laid his hand gently on her mouth. "Hush child," he said, "you don't know what you are saying."

"But Marcus, what was life worth to me? I was beginning to hate it."

"And now, Esmé?"

"Ah, now!" She echoed, and there was a world of expression and meaning in those two little words. "But how late it is the last hour has slipped away on winged feet. Good night, I must go."

"Yes," he answered rather wistfully. "I suppose you must, but I feel as if I hated to let you go out of my sight. Till to-morrow then, Esmé. Ah, darling, my new found darling, come back, just one more kiss before I let you go."

To-morrow! But not such a day as the

lovers had planned out for themselves. They would have had all nature, bright, smiling, plover, rejoicing with them in their happiness. But the day was dark, the sea was leaden, and the air had a treacherous sullen look. A storm seemed imminent; but as they sat together hand in hand, they talked and laughed, and drew a contrasting picture between their own bright outlook, and the troubled time which had fallen upon Dame Nature. Towards evening, however, Marcus began to grow a little uneasy, though he hid his best to hide it from her. She seemed so gay, so careless of any impending danger, so secure in her new-found happiness, that he had not the heart to hint at any trouble.

Next day the weather grew worse. The raging sea ran mountains high, and the foam-crested waves seemed to be having a wanton gambol with the ship as she crashed through them. Then, towards noon, they knew the worst, they were in the midst of a typhoon, that dreaded enemy of the China Sea. The rain poured down in torrents, the wind lashed and beat the ship in its relentless fury, and swept the decks, carrying all before it. A d then when night came and shrouded in darkness the horrors of the day, their misery was increased tenfold, for all means of reckoning, their whereabouts had gone, and the Captain knew that somewhere in their track lay the Pescadore. Esmé and Marcus were sitting in the saloon in semi-darkness, for the rush of water kept putting out the lights. Her face was very pale, but she was calm and collected, while on all sides above the shriek of women, terror-struck. Marcus held her close. "My brave little woman," he murmured in her ear, for the noise of the storm made conversation impossible. A terrific crash. A terrible sound of splitting timber, and the poor ship shivered from stem to stern like a reed in a gale.

Then Marcus knew that unless some miracle took place, their doom was sealed. They had struck the Pescadore. He seized Esmé's hand in a grip that hurt her.

"Come," he said, "keep up your courage darling, we must make for the deck, it is our only chance." He led her through the saloon, which was alive with the cries of terrified passengers, and in the blinding darkness they groped their way up the stairs. They could hardly see anything, but their senses told them what a score of dangers surrounded them, and the shouts of the officers and the struggling to make themselves heard above the fury of the gale, fell upon their ears.

Marcus was busy blinding her to him with a piece of rope.

"We may be washed on to the rocks," he said, "it is our only chance." A huge wave thundered over the deck only a few yards from where they were standing. It was a spray of cold and drenched them, and on the wind was borne the cry of the despairing creatures it carried with it into eternity. Marcus felt that the next one would very likely take them with it, and he told her so. She shivered a little, and clung to him, and hid her face upon his breast.

"Oh, Marcus, darling, it is cruel," she whispered, her voice all choked with tears. "We were so happy, happier than I had ever hoped to be in this world. Why must we die? Is there no hope? Has Fate decreed that we shall not live our lives together? But in our death God has been good, and has not separated us—he put up her hand and pulled his face down to hers—"Kiss me, goodbye, darling—it is so dark I cannot see you, and oh, Marcus, think of me for letting us be together, I had rather a thousand times die with you than live my life alone." Another wave came crashing over the ship with a "ull" awful thud. Marcus felt it was their death-knell. His arms closed tightly round her. "Good-bye, my darling—let me come," and then the dense black volume of water broke over them, and they were swept off into the seething sea.

A calm sea, and a sunny sky. All traces of the storm have disappeared. The wild chaos of yesterday has gone. But it has taken with it many lives and has devastated many homes. Bits of wreck are lying on the peaceful waters telling their own tale. Drifting on it is a poor spar and a man and a woman. Her head, with its great untamed curls of hair, is pillowed on his breast, and she seems to be sleeping peacefully, but it is the long, long, sleep of death!

A CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS

AT SINGAPORE.

THE "UNOFFICIALS" RESIGN IN A BODY.

The following report of a constitutional crisis at Singapore will be read with interest, for here in Hongkong we have just as much reason to protest against the Military Extortion as have the raterayers of the "sister colony."

It was understood yesterday afternoon, says the Singapore Free Press of the 4th instant, although not yet a matter of official communication, that the Government had made a decision with the fact, that four Singapore Unofficial Members of Council have resigned their seats in Council as a formal and final protest against the unjust policy laid down in Lord Ripon's despatch upon the Military Contribution. Of these Mr. T. C. Byrard's resignation took the form of declining to accept re-election, and the other three members, Mr. Sheppard, Mr. Donaldson, and Mr. Seno Long Seah, have formally signed their decision to no longer retain office. That such a grave step, (which has evidently not been undertaken without deep consideration) will have the entire support and sympathy of the Colony there can be no question whatever. And the public will anxiously await the time, when it comes in due course, to learn in what terms those gentlemen have taken action. That they have the moral support of the Colony is evidenced

by what we are to-day enabled to state as to the proceedings of the two most important public groups of those holding honorary civil appointments.

The next day, the 5th instant, all the members of the Chinese Advisory Board likewise resigned, the action, and that of the Unofficials being commented upon by the Singapore Free Press as follows:—To-day (5th January) would be premature to comment at any length upon the news of the action taken by the Unofficial Members of Council and the public bodies who have so quickly and spontaneously affirmed their fullest support in their power. The Governor is absent at Penang, and it is presumably only by telegram through the Colonial Secretariat that he has learnt what action has been taken in Singapore to vindicate the Colony's rights and claims for justice. But it is not too early to say on behalf of the public that to the Unofficials who have made this final stand in defence of their trust, the Colony offers, with full hands, all approval, honour, esteem, and gratitude. We are in no mood to enquire into the causes that are supposed to have produced hesitation in some quarters before the final decision was taken. It has been taken; and it is now the duty of the public to convince all those gentlemen that they have with them, in their action, the entire moral and material support of the Colony as put at their disposal. It is a glad relief to many anxious hearts among us to see the good old manly English spirit assert itself at last but not before exhausting every method of obtaining justice through the ordinary channels. The Colony thanks its Unofficials, the justices of the Peace, and, not least of all, the Chinese gentlemen who hold the important office of members of the Advisory Board. Fully aware of no distinction of climate or country, and our Chinese friends are as able as any of us to feel that the Colony has not been treated in this matter with the respect or consideration that the barest justice would prescribe. Through these years of struggle our Unofficials have done much in defence of the Colony's claims. Now indeed have they done even better. They may lay aside a more laudable motive, but in doing so, in the best and highest sense do they carry with them again into private life the permanent distinction of honourable duty honourably done. It is a page in this Colony's history that will reflect honour but credit upon the men who helped to write it. Again, and again, does the Colony thank them.

SPORT AND ATHLETICS.

(Continued.)

THE BILLIARD CHAMPION'S CAREER.

John Roberts was born at Ardwick on August 15th, 1847, being the son of Mr. John Roberts himself a great player. In his day, Roberts was considered so much the superior of all other players that nobody could be persuaded to accept from him 300 out of 1,000 in a match for money, and his backs of 200, 300, 400, and 500 were considered quite phenomenal. Indeed, when John Roberts's father was at his best, a break of 100 was uncommon, and Hughes Dutton, Bowles, and Tabby, who ranked next to him, played matches without once reaching these figures in a single effort. In 1860, John Roberts and his son, then a lad of 13, went to London, and the elder left Saville House, Leicester Square, on the site of which now stands the Empire Theatre. The premises were fitted out as a billiard saloon, and all the principal matches of the day, including those of the rival universities, were played there. Master John soon showed he was following his father's footsteps for at 13 he was a handi-capped at St. James's Hall, in which the leading players of the day competed. The first match for money in which Roberts took part was against Wm. Cook. It was 1,000 up for 300, and Roberts won by 91. In 1870 Roberts, Jun., challenged Cook for the championship, and was doubtless moved to do this because Cook had just defeated his father for the honour. The meeting was arranged for April 18th, and Roberts gained an easy victory by 478 points. It was not destined, however, that he should enjoy the distinction long for Joe Bennett beat him, and Cook avenged himself. The championship was held in turn by Cook, Roberts and Bennett until 1885, when Roberts defeated Cook by 93, and Bennett by 160. Since that date, Joe, 1885, Roberts has remained the unchallenged and undisputed champion of English players. No one has the courage to tackle him under the championship conditions, although he is doubtless quite willing to play him at the all-in game, which is, after all as said and done, billiards. The American, Ives, gained a sensational victory over Roberts in a contest with peculiar conditions. But still at the all-out English game and particularly with the monotonous spot stroke barred, no one has ever approached the high level of the present champion.

FRAGMENTARY FACTS CONCERNING THE CHAMPION.

For six months a year at least Roberts plays 3,000 points a day. To this constant practice, the fact that he does not smoke, and that he limits himself to two "whiskies" daily, he attributes his marvellous power. In playing a match he says that he always looks—not once—but three or four shots ahead, just the same as a chess player does in his moves. John Roberts, if not rich in his very happy and prosperous circumstances. He has always taken care of his money, and that is where most billiard players have failed. He has known what it is to take 7,000 entrance money in five nights, and precious few cueists can say this. The champion has visited India about a dozen times, has been to the Cape twice, to New Zealand twice, to Australia three times, and to America once, besides numerous Continental trips, so that he may honestly be described as a travelling and a well-informed man. His home is in Gloucester Road, Regent's Park, London, is full of trophies given to him and collected in various parts of the world. He is the director and largest shareholder in John Roberts and Co., billiard table manufacturers, of Calcutta, and is probably known to as many Rajahs and Indian potentates and Princesses as any Englishman not in the Oriental diplomatic service, while he is well-known to our own Prince of Wales who is said to have received many a wreath from the champion. He is the proprietor of a successful hotel at Durban, in South Africa, and has quite a penchant for descending silver, diamond, and other mines. His hobby, however, is the collection of engravings and etchings, in which he has a refined and cultivated taste. He is a firm believer in Digby as the player of the future.

THE RISE OF PEALL THE "ALL-IN" CHAMPION. The only man who has any pretensions to be considered the equal of John Roberts at billiards, pure and simple, without restrictions, is W. J. Peall. This little man, he stands 5ft. 10in. to Robert's 5ft. 11in., has done some wonderful things in his time. He contends that the English game of billiards includes the spot-stroke and that no championship can be valid that is not played on an ordinary table and does not include that very paying stroke. In his line that he is to be as a spot-stroke player, Peall has no equal. He was born in London on the last day of 1844, and began to

play when but 13. That he had a natural aptitude for the game is evident from the fact that after 18 months' practice he made 74 consecutive screw backs. There was a table at his father's hotel, and also a very able marker. When Mr. Peall was at school the marker used to write him letters "full of billiards." When he was not at school young Peall practiced for an hour and a half every day and then developed his passion for "potting the red." Indeed, he was always "fiddling about the spot." After passing his 18th birthday, Peall gave up playing for love, but on returning to his youthful love he found him in form very speedily. After a few months' practice Peall became so expert and so accurate that he could find no amateurs who would meet him. He therefore played in a match at the Aquarium for £100, agreeing that if he won he would transfer the prize to the next man. The authorities deemed that by playing with professionals he had forfeited his amateur status. Peall considered whether he should give up billiards or become a professional cueist, and he resolved, after deep cogitation, in favour of the latter course. And he has never regretted his choice. His first appearance as a professional was made at the Plough Inn, Lewisham, when he played George Collins an exhibition game, and received a fee of three guineas for doing so.

PEALL'S MARVELLOUS FEATS.

Peall has done many notable things. He has made one break of over 3,000, several of about 2,000, a spot-barred of 571, and has scored 1,000 in 44 minutes in 1884—this being the quickest game on record in November 1886, Peall played G. Collins 15,000 up at the Aquarium, and on the 4th and 5th of that month scored 2,413 in one break. In doing this he made 134 and 449 spot-strokes in succession. A machine could hardly be more precise, and yet he broke down at a comparatively easy hazard. When this break was over the spectators simply yelled themselves hoarse, and Sir Robert Peel, an interested spectator, unable to contain himself, sprang towards the smiling little man and wrung his hands with rapture and good fellowship. Mr. Wright, of Wright and Co., the table manufacturers, presented him with a £50 note. Great feat as this was, Peall surpassed it on November 5th and 6th 1890. C. Dawson, Huddersfield, a really splendid young player, who quitted the business of head and reed making to become a billiardist, had just defeated Peall at the spot-barred game after a most exciting match. Peall had not been defeated for nearly two years. Thereupon he played Dawson an all-in game at the Aquarium, the points being 15,000 up, Dawson to receive one-third of that number as his start. Peall smote his opponent hip and high, making no less than 3,304 in a single break. His runs on the spot included 91, 150, 123, 372, 120, and 400 successful whistles, heard for this he was presented with another £50 and a valuable stopwatch. Dawson never made a stroke for a day and a half. This is the kind of man Peall is.

MAINLY ABOUT PEALL.

Like Roberts, Peall never smokes, but what is more he never drinks, although he is a publican, for he is the proprietor of the White Horse at Brixton, London. His hand is always steady, his eyes bright and clear, his nerves firm, and his temper agreeable. He is associated with Thurston and Co., the makers of the billiard tables for the Royal family, just as John Roberts is always connected with Burroughs and Watts. They do say, and no doubt it is true, that these firms pay these gentlemen "retainers" to play on their tables. And if they do I see no harm in it. Even musical publishers and composers know what it is to pay great vocalists to sing songs which they wish to force on the public. Peall never trains, although he cycles a great deal. He uses the ordinary bicycle and is very fast, when he descends to a safety. While John Roberts always uses a cue of 15 ounces, Peall sticks to one half an ounce lighter. It is an interesting fact that Peall now uses the same cue as that with which he played in his first match with Collins at Lewisham. Mr. Peall has a little daughter, Miss Mabel, who is not yet 11, and can barely reach the table, but she can make breaks of 25 and 30. Peall hopes to see her earn a handsome income as a lady teacher of billiards.—*Bombay Gazette.*

CHILDREN starving to death on account of their inability to digest food will find a most marvellous food and remedy, in Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites. Very palatable and easily digested. Read the following testimonial:—"I have prescribed 'Scott's Emulsion' in cases of children suffering from wasting and mal-nutrition and can report most favourably of its good effect; it has been in each case taken most readily."—W. PERKINS, M.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent, Butleigh Hospital. Any Chemist can supply it.—Sole Agent for Hongkong and the Empire of China:—Chan A Fook, at Watkins & Co., Hongkong.—[Adv.]

Today's Advertisements.

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SOLDIERS and SAILORS to Back Seats only Half-price.

MONDAY EVENING, 14th January.

ANTONIO ROMANI. (SEE DAILY PAPERS.) Dress Circle and Stalls.....\$8 Admission.....\$1 CHAS. B. HICKS, Manager. Hongkong, 12th January, 1895. [98]

Today's Advertisements.

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TO-NIGHT AT 9 P.M.

D'ARCS FANTOCHES FRANCAISES (MARIONETTES).

ROARS OF LAUGHTER. THUNDERS OF APPLAUSE. ENCORES INNUMERABLE. TO-NIGHT AT 9 P.M. ALL THE NOVELTIES. PRICES OF ADMISSION:—Private Boxes (per seat).....\$2.00 Stalls.....1.50 2nd Class.....1.50 Gallery.....0.50 Children half-price, except to Gallery. PLAN at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH'S, LD. Hongkong, 12th January 1895. [72]

ST. JOHN LODGE

OF HONGKONG, No. 618, S.C.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, THIS EVENING, the 12th instant, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.

Hongkong, 12th January, 1895. [71]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAITAN."

Captain Goddard, will be despatched for the above Ports on WEDNESDAY, the 16th instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAFRAIR & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 12th January, 1895. [94]

HONGKONG AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB.

PERFORMANCES OF "ROBINSON CRUSOE" will be given on the following Dates at the THEATRE ROYAL, CITY HALL, at 9 P.M. precisely:—

WEDNESDAY, 30TH JANUARY.

THURSDAY, 31ST FEBRUARY.

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THURSDAY, 7TH

TUESDAY, 12TH

WEDNESDAY, 10TH

THURSDAY, 11TH

WEDNESDAY, 12TH

THURSDAY, 13TH

WEDNESDAY, 14TH

THURSDAY, 15TH

WEDNESDAY, 16TH

THURSDAY, 17TH

WEDNESDAY, 18TH

THURSDAY, 19TH

WEDNESDAY, 20TH

THURSDAY, 21ST

WEDNESDAY, 22ND

THURSDAY, 23RD

WEDNESDAY, 24TH

THURSDAY, 25TH

WEDNESDAY, 26TH

THURSDAY, 27TH

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THURSDAY, 29TH

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THE POPULAR SUMMER RESORT, and TERMINUS of the only pleasant DRIVE to be had on the Island. "BAY VIEW" occupies the best situation on the Shaw-ki-wan Road, commands an excellent view of the Harbour, and is always open to the cool breezes from the Southward. Steam-launches can at any time come alongside the jetty adjoining the spacious lawn.

To the other attractions of this popular resort BATHING PAVILIONS

have been added, and a LAUNCH runs from the NEW PEDDER'S WHARF to BAY VIEW every half-hour after 5 P.M. daily.

Private Dinners or Tiffin prepared in First-class style on the shortest notice, and Meals can be served at all hours.

Hongkong, 12th August, 1894. [19]

THE ROYAL STAG HOTEL.

(LATE THE STAG HOTEL)—Established in 1887—Nos. 148/150, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

THIS POPULAR HOTEL has recently been thoroughly renovated and, under new and experienced Management, offers Accommodation at most reasonable rates to BOARDERS and VISITORS, unsurpassed in the Colony.

The BED-ROOMS are Commodious and Comfortably FURNISHED, with HOT, COLD and SHOWER BATHS, and in addition to a WELL APPOINTED

BAR, with GRILL-ROOM attached, there are DINING, BILLIARD and SMOKING ROOMS, with every convenience.

The CUISINE is in able and experienced hands, and only the best brands of WINES, SPIRITS and MALT LIQUORS are kept.

For terms, &c., apply to THE MANAGER, Royal Stag Hotel.

Hongkong, 3rd November, 1894. [38]

PEAK HOTEL.

OPEN ALL THE YEAR ROUND.

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SPECIAL WINTER RATES, (FROM NOVEMBER 1ST TO MARCH 31ST).

One person, per day.....\$2.50 to \$ 3.00 One person, per month.....\$5 to 60.00 Married couple (occupying one room) per day.....1.00

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For further particulars, apply to THE MANAGER, New Victoria Hotel.

Hongkong, 16th October, 1894. [26]

THOMAS' GRILL ROOMS, (Corner of Queen's Road and Duddell Street.)

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Breakfast.....per meal \$2.75.....per Month \$12 Time.....\$2.75.....\$25 Dinner.....\$2.75.....\$25 Breakfast, Tiffin and Dinner.....\$45 Breakfast and Tiffin.....\$25 Tiffin and Dinner.....\$45

SPECIAL TIPPINGS and DINNERS served in Excellent Style at short notice.

W. THOMAS, Proprietor.

Hongkong, 14th June, 1894. [57]

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AGENCY Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 7th January, 1895. [19]

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13, Queen's Road, Hongkong, 24th August, 1894. [15]

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